



Search for the President of the Harlem School of the Arts  
New York, New York

The Harlem School of the Arts (HSA) seeks a strategic, innovative, and inspiring President to lead the school as it embarks on its next chapter. HSA is a beloved, inspirational, and impactful cultural institution that offers interdisciplinary curricular offerings and programming rooted in music, dance, theater, visual arts, and design. For almost sixty years, HSA has provided equity of opportunity for every student, regardless of their socioeconomic status. This organization has operated and served young students in the Harlem and Upper Manhattan area to reach their full potential in the arts, education, and life whether they choose to pursue professional careers in the arts or not. Of the nearly 2,000 students who attend, over 70% are African American or Latino/a and approximately 68% of the students receive financial assistance.

What stands out about HSA is the rigor, excellence, and breadth of its programming; the extraordinary student body; the formidable, knowledgeable, and dedicated faculty artists; and the mutually beneficial partnerships with other non-profits, artists, and community organizations. HSA also occupies a 37,000 square-foot state-of-the-art newly renovated facility, and dedicated board members and donors have invested in HSA over the years.

Today a new strategic plan is in place, which emphasizes HSA's commitment to high-quality arts instruction; youth and their potential; giving voice to shared experience while increasing emphasis on interdisciplinary work; equity, access, and inclusion; and preparing students for the 21<sup>st</sup> century creative economy.

As the executive leader for HSA, the President will leverage the new strategic plan to amplify its impact. To sustain HSA, the President will strengthen fundraising efforts and diversify revenue sources. The President will also think creatively about cultivating partnerships, expanding community outreach efforts, and increasing access to arts education. In addition to serving as the external leader for HSA, the President will manage the organization internally with a focus on efficiency, transparency, and collaboration. Lastly, the President will ensure best board governance practices while working on recruiting and growing talent on the Board.

HSA has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist in this search. All applications, inquiries, and nominations, which will remain confidential, should be directed to the search firm, as indicated at the end of this document.

**Rebecca Swartz, Karen Avery, Rediat Mersha**

<https://www.imsearch.com/8426>

*The Harlem School of the Arts strives to cultivate an environment that is diverse, inclusive, and free from discrimination. HSA is committed to prohibiting employment discrimination based on race, religion, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, political affiliation, National Guard or Veteran status, genetic information, or a disability.*